# ABSTRACT

The invention is based on a communication network containing components which use and provide services in the communication network, a plurality of components being able to provide the same service.  One component determines the services provided by other components in the communication network.  Where the same services are provided by two components, information relating to the output state of the software controlling the services is exchanged between the components and compared.  A software update is initialised if the output states differ.  If a defined service is activated in a second component by means of a first component, but the service cannot be provided by means of the software of the second component although the second component has the necessary hardware requirements therefore, said service is made available by updating the software of the second component.